Revival of Khalistan Movement

277. SHRI RAJKUMAR DHOOT: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a number of incidents have come to light that militants and separatist groups in Punjab are reviving their nefarious Khalistan movement;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps being taken to prevent revival of militancy and terrorist era of pre-1984?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI SRIPRAKASH JAISWAL): (a) and (b) Available reports suggest that efforts continue to be made to revive militancy in Punjab. The disclosures made by Shri Jagtar Singh Hawara arrested following the twin bomb blasts in Delhi on May 22,2005 have also revealed such inputs.

(c) The Government of Punjab has taken a series of preventive and preemptive steps to neutralize attempts made by Babbar Khalsa International (BKI) and other similar groups to revive terrorism in the State. These include upgradation of intelligence machinery, special drives against suspects and their arrests, surveillance over suspected places of shelter used by anti-national elements, joint interrogations of suspects to unearth the ramifications of their inter-state and intra-State linkages and constitution of special investigation teams. The Central Government also keeps a close witch on the situation and shares the necessary intelligence with the State Government for appropriate action.

In addition, pro-Khalistan terrorist outfits namely, Babbar Khalsa International (BKI), International Sikh Youth Federation (ISYF), Khalistan Commondo Force (KCF) and Khalistan Zindabad Force (KZF) continue to be banned as terrorist organizations under the Unlawful Activities (Pretention) Amendment Act, 2004

Arrest of Babbar Khalsa Activist

278. SHRI RAJKUMAR DHOOT: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the arrest of Babbar Khalsa (BKI) Supremo

Jagtar Singh Hawara has revealed nexus between BKI and Border Security Forces',

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the role of ISI of Pakistan in helping BKI in their unlawful activities in India; and

(d) the steps taken to nab all BKI activists?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI SRIPRAKASH JAISWAL). (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Available reports suggest that some leaders of pro-Khalistan militant groups including BKI continue to take shelter in Pakistan. The disclosures made by Shri Jagtar Singh Hawara also indicate that the efforts are being made to revive BKI cadres in India for terrorist activities.

(d) The Central and State security and intelligence agencies are closely monitoring the situation and have taken the necessary follow up action following the disclosures made by Shri Jagtar Singh Hawara.

Barbed Fencing of Indo-Nepal Border

† 279. SHRIMATI KUM KUM RAI: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are considering to erect barbed fencing on Indian borders with Nepal;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI S. REGUPATHY): (a) No, Madam.

(b) Question does not arise in view of (a) above.

(c) In view of the visa free regime for movement of Indian and Nepalese nationals across this border, no proposal for erection of barbed wire fencing on this border is under consideration of the Government.

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† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.